

JUDGE ROSANNA MALOUF PETERSON

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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**

JOSHUA BRENT STULLER.

Plaintiff,

VS.

CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON; BILL LARSEN, in his official capacity as Interim Director of the Chelan County Regional Justice Center; LESLIE CARLSON, in her official capacity as the Chelan County Regional Justice Center Mental Health Manager; and their officers, agents, employees, and successors,

Defendants.

NO. 2:18-CV-178-RMP

SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT
FOR DAMAGES AND INJUNCTIVE
AND DECLARATORY RELIEF FOR
VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Plaintiff brings this action to stop the Chelan County Regional Justice Center (CCRJC) from unconstitutionally, illegally, and cruelly subjecting inmates with disabilities to solitary confinement, resulting in suffering and psychological harm.

1.2 Prolonged solitary confinement has long been recognized and proven to be a severe form of punishment or mistreatment, even torture. The isolation is especially harmful to people with mental illness, who predictably deteriorate, suffering increased psychosis, paranoia, depression, anxiety, and self-harm.

1.3 Defendants, acting under color of state law, operate the CCRJC and implement policies, patterns, practices, and custom that routinely subject inmates with medical, mental, or behavioral health problems to lengthy solitary confinement and isolation without reasonable justification. While they may offer pretextual reasons such as security or medical concerns, these concerns could be adequately addressed in other ways. In fact, the solitary confinement is imposed for no other reason than the inmates' disability. Defendants thus treat the most vulnerable inmates in a way that exacerbates their illnesses and suffering, violating constitutional and statutory law, correctional facility guidelines, and basic standards of human decency.

1.4 Defendants compound the problem by failing to provide reasonably necessary medical, mental, substance abuse, and behavioral treatment to Plaintiff and

1 other inmates with disabilities. Inmates may go without a proper medication assessment
2 and regimen and basic treatment, including socialization, family visits, and therapy.

3 1.5 Defendants' failure to exercise appropriate supervisory authority over the
4 CCRJC and to prevent the psychological injury and deterioration of the most vulnerable
5 in their care is plainly unlawful. The Eighth Amendment's prohibition on cruel and
6 unusual punishment and the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of due process together
7 protect individuals' right to be free from a substantial risk of serious harm while
8 incarcerated. These protections include the right to constitutionally adequate mental
9 health treatment and the right to be free from the unnecessary and wanton infliction of
10 pain and suffering.

11 1.6 Moreover, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and
12 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibit the use of solitary confinement to
13 warehouse people with disabilities and require that such individuals be provided with
14 equal access to the programs, services, and activities offered in the CCRJC.

15 1.7 These federal laws prohibit the discriminatory use of force and restraints on
16 people in response to non-violent behavior directly related to their disabilities and
17 require that Defendants make reasonable modifications to their policies, practices, and
18 procedures to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability.

19 1.8 Defendants' long-standing pattern and practice of neglect has directly
20

1 caused serious, ongoing, and irreparable harm to Plaintiff and others. These harmful
2 actions are in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States
3 Constitution, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
4

5 II. PARTIES

6 A. PLAINTIFF

7 2.1 Plaintiff Joshua Stuller was incarcerated in the Chelan County Regional
8 Justice Center (“CCRJC”) for thirteen months, from October 11, 2015 until November
9 1, 2016. He was then, and is now, a qualified individual with a disability as that term is
10 defined in 42 U.S.C. § 12102 and 29 U.S.C. § 705(9)(B), as he has been diagnosed with
11 schizophrenia, depression, and anxiety. Upon admission and throughout his stay at
12 CCRJC, he experienced visual and auditory hallucinations including hearing voices, as
13 well as delusions and flashbacks. He also experienced frightening nightmares and
14 difficulty sleeping.

15 2.2 Despite clear evidence of serious mental health issues, and in the face of
16 best practices to the contrary, CCRJC staff denied Mr. Stuller access to basic mental
17 health treatment and improperly retained him in solitary confinement for the thirteen-
18 month duration of his stay, causing him severe psychological and emotional suffering,
19 exacerbating his mental health symptoms, placing him at unreasonable risk of self-harm
20 and psychological decompensation, along with unrelieved suffering from his illness.

1 **B. DEFENDANTS**

2 2.3 Defendant Chelan County (the “County”) is municipality chartered under
3 the laws of Washington and is a public entity as that term is defined in 42 U.S.C. §
4 12131(1). The County operates and manages CCRJC and by law retains ultimate
5 authority over and responsibility for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of Plaintiff
6 Stuller and other inmates in a manner that comports with all legal obligations.

7
8 2.4 Defendant Bill Larsen is the Interim Director of CCRJC. He is responsible
9 for the supervision of CCRJC employees, the proper execution of CCRJC policies, and
10 the lawful treatment of individuals confined to CCRJC. As an employee of Chelan
11 County, he acts under color of state law. Director Larsen is sued in his official capacity.

12
13 2.5 Defendant Leslie Carlson is the Mental Health Manager for CCRJC. She is
14 responsible for the leadership, oversight, and clinical direction of the Mental Health
15 Program, ensuring compliance with governing laws and regulations, and that the Mental
16 Health Program at CCRJC provides incarcerated persons a community standard of care
17 and that ethical and professional standards of practice are maintained. Ms. Carlson is
18 sued in her professional capacity.

19 **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

20
21 3.1 This Court has jurisdiction over the claims brought under federal law
22 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331 and 1343. Plaintiff seeks damages and declaratory and
23
24

injunctive relief under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1343, 2201, and 2202, 29 U.S.C. § 794a, and 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983 and 12117(a).

3.2 Venue is properly in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because Plaintiff's claims for relief arose in this District and one or more of the Defendants reside in this District.

IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. Solitary Confinement Is a Form of Torture that Causes Devastating and Permanent Damage.

4.1 Solitary confinement is generally recognized as the isolated confinement of an inmate in a locked cell, where the inmate is removed from the general inmate population and deprived of meaningful contact with other people, for twenty-two to twenty-four hours per day.¹

4.2 It is well established that solitary confinement and extended cell confinement can have devastating effects on the mental well-being of a person.²

4.3 Indeed, solitary confinement has been described as a form of torture by the

¹ See, e.g., U.S. Dep’t of Justice, *Report and Recommendations Concerning the Use of Restrictive Housing* p. 3 (2016), available at <https://www.justice.gov/dag/file/815551/download> (last accessed May 30, 2018); Nat’l Comm’n on Corr. Health Care, *Position Statement: Solitary Confinement (Isolation)* (2016), available at <http://www.ncchc.org/solitary-confinement> (last accessed May 30, 2018).

² Anna Guy, Amplifying Voices of Inmates with Disabilities Prison Project, *Locked Up and Locked Down: Segregation of Inmates with Mental Illness* 12 – 15 (2016), available at <http://avidprisonproject.org>. (last accessed May 30, 2018).

1 United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture.³

2 4.4 Even in adults without mental illness or other vulnerabilities, “negative
 3 health effects can occur after only a few days in solitary confinement, and the health
 4 risks rise with each additional day spent in such conditions.”⁴ “Research further shows
 5 that solitary confinement appears to cause ‘psychotic disturbances,’ a syndrome that has
 6 been described as “prison psychoses”. Symptoms can include anxiety, depression,
 7 anger, cognitive disturbances, perceptual distortions, paranoia and psychosis and self-
 8 harm.⁵

9 4.5 The United Nations report continues:

10 Some individuals experience discrete symptoms while others experience
 11 a ‘severe exacerbation of a previously existing mental condition or the
 12 appearance of a mental illness where none had been observed before’.
 13 Still, a significant number of individuals will experience serious health
 14 problems regardless of the specific conditions, regardless of time and
 15 place, and regardless of pre-existing personal factors.⁶

16 4.6 The tortuous and devastating effects of solitary confinement are even more
 17 severe when imposed upon people with mental illness or other disabilities. The
 18 American Psychiatric Association approved in 2012, and retained in 2017, its *Position*

21 ³ Juan Méndez, Interim Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and
 22 other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, at 19-21, U.N. Doc. A/66/268 (Aug. 5,
 23 2011), available at <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/445/70/PDF/N1144570.pdf?OpenElement> (last accessed May 30,
 24 2018).

25 ⁴ *Id.*, p. 17, ¶ 62.

⁵ *Id.*, p. 18, ¶ 62.

⁶ *Id.*, p. 18, ¶ 63.

Statement on Segregation of Prisoners with Mental Illness, stating: “Prolonged segregation of adult inmates with serious mental illness, with rare exceptions, should be avoided due to the potential for harm to such inmates.”⁷

4.7 Even more directly, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Mandela Rules) state that “solitary confinement should be prohibited in the case of prisoners with mental or physical disabilities when their conditions would be exacerbated by such measures.”⁸

4.8 For these reasons and many others, the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (“NCCHC”), one of the foremost authorities on health care in jails, forcefully opposes the imposition of isolation and solitary confinement on all prisoners, and especially on people with mental illness. Included in its Position Statement are the following unambiguous principles:

a. Prolonged (greater than 15 consecutive days) solitary confinement is cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment, and harmful to an individual's health.

b. Juveniles, mentally ill individuals, and pregnant women should be excluded from solitary confinement of any duration.

⁷ Available at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/MH/Documents/2013_04_AC_06c_APAs_ps2012_PrizSeg.pdf (last accessed June 6, 2018).

⁸ Available at http://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ_Sessions/CCPCJ_24/resolutions/L6_Rev1/ECN152015_L6Rev1_e_V1503585.pdf (Rule 45) (last accessed June 6, 2018).

- c. Correctional health professionals should not condone or participate in cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment of adults or juveniles in custody.

- d. Prolonged solitary confinement should be eliminated as a means of punishment.

e. Solitary confinement, as an administrative method of maintaining security, should be used only as an exceptional measure when other, less restrictive options are not available, and then for the shortest time possible. Solitary confinement should never exceed 15 days. In those rare cases where longer isolation is required to protect the safety of staff and/or other inmates, more humane conditions of confinement need to be utilized.⁹

4.9 With virtually every medical, psychological, and mental health organization speaking in unison to condemn and encourage the prohibition of solitary confinement of person with mental illness, numerous federal courts have found the solitary confinement of the mentally ill to be unconstitutional. *See, e.g. Madrid v. Gomez*, 889 F. Supp. 1146, 1265-66 (N.D. Cal. 1995).

B. Defendants Have an Official Policy and Practice of Subjecting Inmates to Solitary Confinement Based Solely on Their Disability.

4.10 Site visits and investigations of the CCRJC by monitoring group Disability

⁹ National Commission on Correctional Health Care, *Solitary Confinement*, April 10, 2016, available at <https://www.ncchc.org/solitary-confinement> (last accessed June 6, 2018).

1 Rights Washington has revealed that inmates with mental illness or other disabilities
2 seem to generally be housed in segregation. *See Exhibit A: Cruel But Not Unusual,*
3 *Solitary Confinement in Washington's County Jails* (2016).

4 4.11 This general practice of housing inmates with disabilities in segregation is
5 implemented pursuant to CCRJC's inmate classification policy that provides that solitary
6 confinement will be imposed upon inmates "who require segregation because of such
7 medical conditions as communicable diseases, or such mental conditions necessitating
8 segregation from general population (danger to self or others)."

9 4.12 The CCRJC Inmate Handbook provides: "You will be interviewed and
10 classified based upon your behavior, current charge and past criminal history. You will
11 be assigned a custody level, dressed in a corresponding colored uniform and given a
12 housing assignment to be determined by the Objective Jail Classification deputies. Your
13 custody level is subject to review every 60 days, and may go up or down based on your
14 behavior and any changes in charges."

15 4.13 The CCRJC Inmate Handbook further provides: "Inmates who require
16 special housing to ensure their safety, the security of the facility or the safety of other
17 inmates in general population will be housed in Administrative Segregation. This is a
18 level of custody into which an inmate may be classified as a result of staff determination
19 that the inmate presents a substantial risk to the security or order of the institution or
20

1 safety of the inmate or others. Inmates in this category require separation from the
2 general population and strict supervision in a highly structured, controlled setting.
3 Inmates who break the rules of the facility, are infraction, found or plead guilty will be
4 placed in Disciplinary Segregation.”
5

6 4.14 Thus, Defendants impose solitary confinement conditions upon inmates
7 with disabilities that are substantially equivalent to the conditions imposed upon other
8 inmates as punishment.
9

10 **C. Defendants Fail to Provide Adequate Medical and Mental Health Care**

11 4.15 Defendants fail to provide adequate medical care to inmates, to include poor
12 treatment and management of Plaintiff’s diabetes.
13

14 4.16 There is no designated mental health treatment unit at CCRJC. It employs
15 a Mental Health Manager and some cursory mental health monitoring and screening but
16 does not provide full mental health counseling and psychiatric treatment with medication
17 management.
18

19 4.17 Due to the lack of general mental health screening and treatment by
20 qualified staff, Defendants use solitary confinement and suicide watch as a substitute for
21 mental health services, even if the mentally ill inmate does not express suicidal ideation
22 or threats of self-harm.
23

24 4.18 Defendants fail to provide adequate psychiatric treatment of mental health
25

1 disorders, to include psychiatric care and medication management. Treatment is
2 provided by people who are not doctors and are not qualified to do a full psychiatric
3 assessment and prescribe appropriate medications. Defendant Carlson reviewed Plaintiff
4 Stuller's condition and status and noted his psychotic symptoms but did not provide a
5 plan to treat and resolve the symptoms.
6

7 4.19 Defendants refuse to provide mental health counseling to inmates until
8 twenty-eight days prior to their release date. If a patient lacks a release date, as was the
9 case with Mr. Stuller, no counseling is provided. Mr. Stuller's parents were forced to
10 hire an outside mental health provider to visit Mr. Stuller in the jail on a weekly basis in
11 order for him to receive any counseling at all. Inmates who lack these resources or
12 supports do not receive this level of treatment.
13

14 4.20 Defendants' failure to adequately screen for mental health conditions
15 violates well-established national standards, including those published by the NCCHC.
16

17 4.21 NCCHC's 2014 publication of "Standards for Health Services in Jails"
18 require jails to inquire during the receiving screening into "[p]ast or current mental
19 illness, including hospitalizations," as well as any "[h]istory of or current suicidal
20 ideation." *See* NCCHC Standard J-E-02, p. 71 (2014) (Receiving Screening). These
21 inquiries are designed "to ensure that patients with known illnesses and those on
22 medications are identified for further assessment and continued treatment." *See id.*
23
24

1 4.22 Additionally, NCCHC standards require jails to provide a more
 2 comprehensive mental health screening *for all inmates* within 14 days of admission,
 3 including inquiries into psychiatric hospitalization, suicidal behavior and ideation, and
 4 psychotropic medications, with further referral for evaluation and treatment for
 5 individuals with positive mental illness screens. *See* NCCHC Standard J-E-05 (Mental
 6 Health Screening and Evaluation).

8 4.23 This process includes compiling medical records from community mental
 9 health providers to create a complete mental health history and is designed to identify
 10 people with mental illness “soon after admission to prevent deterioration of their level
 11 of functioning and to [ensure that they] receive necessary treatment in a timely fashion.”
 12 *See* NCCHC Standard J-E-04 (Initial Health Assessment), J-E-05.

14 4.24 Defying national standards, Defendants use solitary confinement as a
 15 substitute for providing actual mental health treatment services.

17 4.25 As a result, inmates can and do remain untreated, floridly psychotic, or
 18 otherwise symptomatic for the entire length of their incarceration, lasting months or even
 19 years, causing immeasurable pain and suffering and risking permanent injury and death.

21 **D. Plaintiff Suffered Injury as a Result of Defendants’ Actions**

22 4.26 Josh Stuller is a person with a mental illness. He was booked into the
 23 CCRJC on October 11, 2015, due to conduct caused by a mental illness, after his family
 24

1 discovered delusional, paranoid, and arguably threatening writings in his bedroom. He
2 would eventually be acquitted on all criminal charges with a finding of Not Guilty by
3 Reason of Insanity.

4 4.27 Shortly after his arrival at CCRJC, Mental Health Manager Leslie Carlson
5 met with Mr. Stuller. She recorded that he reported suffering from schizophrenia,
6 depression, and anxiety and that he had been without his anti-psychotic medications for
7 twenty-four hours.

8 4.28 Ms. Carlson further noted that Mr. Stuller stated that he was not suicidal or
9 homicidal. Despite this, she stated that “it would be wise to keep him in a holding cell
10 until we can detox and stabalize [sic] him and monitor him.”

11 4.29 Consistent with Chelan County’s standard pattern, practices, and policies,
12 Mr. Stuller was then placed in solitary confinement and isolated, with almost no
13 substantial contact with other persons. This occurred not because Mr. Stuller had
14 violated rules that warranted punishment, posed a danger to himself or others, or was at
15 risk of harm from other inmates. There is no indication that Plaintiff Stuller needed to
16 be segregated from the general population. In fact, he stated in his first encounter with
17 Ms. Carlson that he was not suicidal or homicidal.

18 4.30 Rather, he was placed in solitary confinement for the explicit reason that he
19 suffered from a disability—with the likely result that his condition would be worsened
20

1 by such confinement.

2 4.31 Because Mr. Stuller did not have a release date assigned upon admission,
3 Defendants did not provide him with any mental health counseling. His parents hired a
4 private mental health provider to visit him once a week for 30-60 minutes.
5

6 4.32 When Mr. Stuller was permitted to visit with his counselor or other visitors,
7 he was regularly required to remain in a locked cage or in a room with a divider between
8 him and his visitor, preventing actual human contact.
9

10 4.33 For four months, Mr. Stuller was not even provided basic hygiene like
11 haircuts or the ability to shave.
12

13 4.34 Mr. Stuller remained in solitary confinement until he was eventually
14 released from CCRJC thirteen months later, on November 1, 2016.
15

16 4.35 Solitary confinement caused Mr. Stuller severe mental anguish and
17 suffering and exacerbated his mental health symptoms. Throughout Mr. Stuller's
18 thirteen-month stay at CCRJC, Ms. Carlson and others documented his very poor and
19 worsening mental condition, to include auditory hallucinations that were eventually
20 joined by visual hallucinations as the months passed.
21

22 4.36 Defendants observed and were well aware of the suffering caused by
23 unnecessary and unwarranted isolation but minimized it as simple boredom. For
24 instance, On November 17, 2015, Ms. Carlson noted that "he is doing fine/just tired of
25

1 being cooped up all day" and on December 16, 2015, noted that "other than being bored
 2 and cooped up he is doing pretty well."

3 4.37 Rather than respond appropriately and legally to Mr. Stuller's medical
 4 condition and disability, Defendants isolated him further. He was denied visits from his
 5 family (one of the rare times he had any social interaction with anyone) a total of forty-
 6 eight times, for reasons such as a malfunctioning elevator, the local Apple Blossom
 7 Festival, being understaffed, or for no reason at all.

8 4.38 Defendants failed to adequately treat Mr. Stuller's symptoms with
 9 medication and/or therapy. For example, defendants gave an injected medication which
 10 temporarily lessened but failed to eliminate his symptoms. Defendants did not try
 11 different medications to adequately treat his symptoms. In March of 2016, the jail ran
 12 out of the partially effective injected medication but did not provide an alternative
 13 medication, instead choosing to leave Mr. Stuller unmedicated and allowing his
 14 hallucinations to return unchecked. On March 22, 2016, Ms. Carlson noted that Plaintiff
 15 Stuller had visual and auditory hallucinations: "big hairy spiders and cockroaches are
 16 what he sees . . . the voices are louder and meaner now causing him more anxiety."

17 4.39 On May 11, 2016, Plaintiff Stuller was moved to a new isolation room,
 18 where he remained until his release on November 1, 2016.

19 4.40 Upon his release from CCRJC, Plaintiff Stuller entered court-ordered

1 inpatient treatment at Eastern State Hospital. Proving that Mr. Stuller's condition could
2 have been treated at CCRJC, he promptly responded to appropriate treatment at the
3 hospital, experienced full remission of his symptoms, and was successfully released into
4 the community well in advance of his final commitment date. Mr. Stuller's thirteen-
5 month ordeal of isolation was completely unnecessary and preventable.
6

7 4.41 The lack of mental health treatment and deleterious solitary confinement
8 conditions caused Plaintiff Stuller to suffer from unabated and worsening symptoms of
9 his mental illness, which were not relieved until he was released from CCRJC and
10 received treatment at Eastern State Hospital.
11

12 4.42 Defendants also caused Plaintiff Stuller severe emotional and psychological
13 damage and distress throughout his imprisonment, as well as similar damage and distress
14 that is ongoing and possibly permanent.
15

16 V. CAUSES OF ACTION

17 COUNT ONE

18 **Violation of The Eighth Amendment to The U.S. Constitution (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

19 6.1 Defendants' placement of Plaintiff and other inmates in indefinite solitary
20 confinement due to their disability is the policy, practice and custom of CCJRC.
21

22 6.2 Defendants' placement of Plaintiff and other inmates in indefinite solitary
23 confinement due to their disability is done under color of state law.
24

1 6.3 By placing and retaining Plaintiff and other inmates with disabilities in
2 solitary confinement, Defendants deprived Plaintiff and continue to deprive other
3 inmates of basic human needs, including but not limited to routine social interaction,
4 environmental and sensory stimulation, regular physical exercise, sleep and other
5 essential activities.
6

7 6.4 By placing and retaining Plaintiff and other with disabilities inmates in
8 solitary confinement, Defendants created an unreasonable risk of serious harm to the
9 psychological and physical health and safety of Plaintiff and other inmates and in fact
10 caused psychological and physical harm to Plaintiff and other inmates.
11

12 6.5 By placing and retaining Plaintiff and other inmates with disabilities in
13 solitary confinement, Defendants have acted, and continue to act, with deliberate
14 indifference to the psychological and physical harm that such confinement threatens to
15 inflict, has inflicted, and currently inflicts, on Plaintiff and other inmates.
16

17 6.6 Defendants' policy, practice and custom of solitary confinement for people
18 with disabilities, together with Defendants' deliberate indifference to the significant
19 psychological and physical harm that their policy has inflicted and currently inflicts on
20 Plaintiff Stuller and other inmates, violates the prohibition on cruel and unusual
21 punishment guaranteed by the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution.
22

23 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests relief as outlined below.
24

COUNT TWO

Violation of The Fourteenth Amendment to The U.S. Constitution (42 U.S.C. § 1983)

6.7 Defendants' placement of Plaintiff Stuller and other inmates in indefinite solitary confinement due to their disabilities is the policy, practice and custom of CCJRC.

6.8 Defendants' placement of Plaintiff Stuller and other inmates in solitary confinement due to their disabilities is done under color of state law.

6.9 When compared to the conditions of confinement for CCRJC inmates who are not disabled, the conditions experienced by disabled inmates such as Plaintiff Stuller are atypical and significantly more severe.

6.10 Defendants did not afford Plaintiff Stuller and other inmates with disabilities a reasonable opportunity to exit solitary confinement, such as periodic administrative review of their classification coupled with treatment designed to establish their fitness to live in less restrictive housing.

6.11 Inmates in Administrative or Disciplinary Segregation at CCRJC who are not disabled have opportunities per CCRJC policy to have their housing classification reviewed and improved.

6.12 Because Defendants follow policies, practices and customs of imposing an atypical and significant hardship on disabled inmates such as Plaintiff Stuller, and

1 because Defendants denied Plaintiff Stuller and continue to deny other inmates with
2 disabilities the opportunities that other inmates have for review and improvement of their
3 restrictive housing, Defendants have deprived Plaintiff Stuller and continue to deprive
4 other inmates with disabilities of a protected liberty interest without due process of law,
5 in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
6

7 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests relief as outlined below.

8 **COUNT THREE**

9 **Violation of The Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12132 et seq.)**

10
11 6.13 Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, “no qualified individual with a
12 disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be
13 denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be
14 subjected to discrimination by any such entity.” 42 U.S.C. § 12132.
15

16 6.14 Defendant Chelan County is a public entity as defined in 42 U.S.C.
17 §12131(1)(A).

18 6.15 Plaintiff and other inmates are qualified individuals with a disability, as that
19 term is defined in 42 U.S.C. §12102(2). They all suffer from an impairment that
20 substantially limits one or more “major life activities,” including, *inter alia*, caring for
21 oneself, eating, sleeping, speaking, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking,
22 communicating, and working. *See* 42 U.S.C. §12102(2)(A).
23
24

6.16 The programs, services, and activities that Defendants provide to individuals incarcerated at CCRJC include, *inter alia*, mail and telephone services, in-person visitation, hygiene activities, outdoor exercise, administrative, disciplinary, and classification proceedings, the “kite” and grievance systems, library services, access to reading materials, commissary services, and educational, vocational, religious, recreational, and other programming.

6.17 Defendants discriminate against, unjustly segregate, and fail to make reasonable modifications to policies, practices, and procedures for Plaintiff Stuller and other inmates with disabilities. As a result, Plaintiff Stuller and other inmates with disabilities were or are excluded from participation in and denied the benefits of CCRJC's services, programs, and activities by their housing in solitary confinement solely on the basis of their disability.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests relief as outlined below.

COUNT FOUR

Violation of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. § 794)

6.18 Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, “[n]o otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States . . . shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected

1 to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

2 *See 29 U.S.C. § 794(a).*

3 6.19 At all relevant times, Defendant Chelan County received Federal financial
4 assistance as that term is used in 29 U.S.C. § 794, including receiving funding under the
5 U.S. Department of Justice’s State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCRAAP).

6 6.20 All of the operations of Defendant Chelan County qualify as “programs or
7 activities,” as those terms are defined in 29 U.S.C. § 794(b). This includes all operations
8 of CCRJC.

9 6.21 Plaintiff and other inmates with disabilities are qualified individuals with
10 disabilities as that term is defined in 29 U.S.C. § 705(20) and 42 U.S.C. § 12102.

11 6.22 By its policies, practices, and procedures, Defendant Chelan County
12 violated the rights of Plaintiff Stuller and continues to violate the rights of other inmates
13 with disabilities under the Rehabilitation Act by discriminating against them, excluding
14 them from, and denying them the benefits of the operations of the Chelan County Jail.

15 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Stuller requests relief as outlined below.

16 **VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

17 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that this Court:

18 A. Issue judgment in favor of Plaintiff Stuller and against Defendants;
19
20 B. Issue a declaratory judgment that the conduct, conditions, and treatment

1 described in this Complaint violate the constitutional and statutory rights of Plaintiff
2 and other inmates with disabilities in the manner identified in this Complaint.

3 C. Issue a permanent injunction restraining Defendants from violating the
4 Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments, the Rehabilitation Act, and the Americans with
5 Disabilities Act in the housing and provision of care in the CCRJC.
6

7 D. Issue an order retaining jurisdiction over this case to ensure Defendants'
8 full compliance with the foregoing injunction;
9

10 E. Award all legally recoverable damages to Plaintiff Stuller in an amount to
11 be shown at trial.
12

13 F. Issue an award for Plaintiff's costs, litigation expenses, and reasonable
14 attorney's fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988 and 42 U.S.C. § 12205.
15

16 G. Such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and equitable.
17

18 DATED April 19, 2019.
19

20 **PAUKERT & TROPPMANN, PLLC**
21

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 19th day of April, 2019, I electronically filed and served a copy of this document using the CM/ECF filing system which will send notification of such filing to the following:

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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

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